

Amendments to the Specification:

Please renumber pages 6 to 27 as 5 to 26, respectively.

Please replace the paragraph on page 6 (new page 5), lines 1 to 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The foregoing and other objects, aspects and advantages will be better understood from the following detailed description of a preferred embodiment of the invention with reference to the drawings, in which:

Figures 1a and 1b are diagrams illustrating super-pixels that can be used to implement the invention with one bit per pixel digital printers;

Figure 2 is a flowchart representing the way the invention can be implemented; and

Figure 3 a diagram that illustrates the typical flow from an input image to an output image to be printed with a digital printer.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF A PREFERRED EMBODIMENT OF THE INVENTION

While this invention may be more useful for printing, it can as well be used with other displays that have a digital representation of the image with relatively low number of grey levels or colors at each *pixel* (for screen) or *pel* (for printing). We use the word pixel which is better known among non professionals as meaning either pel or pixel depending on the context.

of the digital images obtained along the rasters, using some chosen set of weights to perform the weighted averaging, so that the average value at each pixel can be rendered at that pixel. The invention can also be implemented with printers that have only white and black as possible outputs at each pixel, by creating super-pixels, blocks of B pixels whose outputs in terms of grey level can take B+1 values.

As well known in the art of digital printing (see, for example, Qing Yu and Kevin J. Parker, *ibid.*), once an ED has been devised, it can be used to generate masks to use in the dithering method for digital printing, so that the present invention also provides new means to build masks.

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